

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 1-28 are pending. Claims 1-4 and 14-17 are rejected. Claims 5-13 and 18-28 are objected to.

Section 102 Rejections

Farley

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 as being anticipated by Farley U.S. Patent No. 5,154,297. In response, Applicants have cancelled these four claims.

Mertz

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102 as being anticipated by Mertz U.S. Patent No. 5,277,310. Applicants have cancelled these four claims.

Section 103 rejections

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 16 have been rejected under 35 USC Section 103 as being unpatentable over Farley in view of Wind (Re. 32,344). Applicants have cancelled these four claims.

Claims 3, 4, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 USC Section 103 as being unpatentable over Farley in view of the admitted prior art. Applicants have cancelled claims 3, 4, 16 and 17.

Claims 3, 4, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 USC Section 103 as being unpatentable over Mertz in view of admitted prior art. Applicant have cancelled claims 3, 4, 16 and 17.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's statement that claims 5-13 and 18-28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 5 and claim 18 to place them in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and the intervening claims.

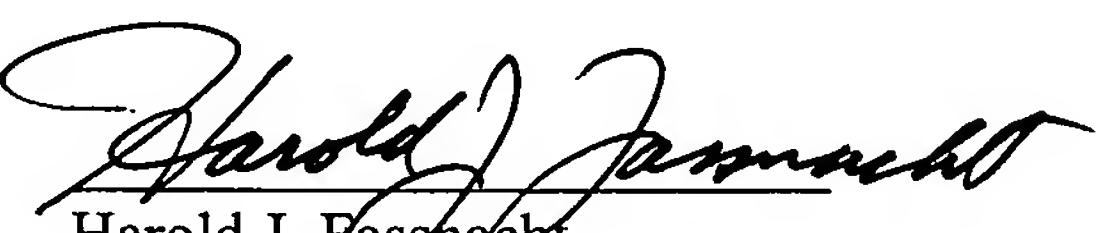
Amendments Under 37 CFR 1.116

Claims 13 and 25 have been cancelled as being redundant in view of their base claims 5 and 18.

Summary

It is believed that this paper constitutes a complete response to the Office Action mailed October 7, 2005, and an early and favorable action allowing claims 5-12, 18-24 and 26-28 is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,


Harold J. Fassnacht
Reg. No. 35,507

CLAUSEN MILLER, P.C.
10 S. LaSalle Street - Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Telephone: 312-606-7674

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